

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : The Files

DATE: 12 March 1963

FROM :

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SUBJECT: Trip Report - Solar Charger and Tracker

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1. On 6 March 1963 a visit was made to [REDACTED] to discuss the fabrication of solar chargers. The following persons were contacted:

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[REDACTED]

2. Mr. [REDACTED] gave a briefing on the solar panel state-of-the-art and [REDACTED] capabilities in this field. This company has furnished the solar panels for the [REDACTED] satellites. As indicated in the attached letter, [REDACTED] can fabricate a low cost tracker and concentrator which would increase the energy output of a solar panel over a full day by 150 per cent. This capability would enhance the use of a solar panel as a charging source greatly. [REDACTED] is in a position to obtain solar cells at a very reasonable cost. This has come about since it has been found that P on N solar cells are damaged by radiation in space. Solar cells for space use are now N on P types, therefore many P on N solar cells originally made for space use are now available. It is recommended that [REDACTED] be asked to propose testing out J&B solar panel in a tracking situation. They are instrumented with servo-controlled trackers with mounts for solar panels. Additionally, [REDACTED] could fabricate two solar charger panels with clock-type trackers to supply 17.5 volts at one amp for charging sealed ventable cells.

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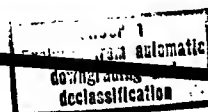
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3. Of possible interest is [REDACTED] capability in the digital systems field. (See Attached brochure).

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~~SECRET~~



**SUBJECT: Solar Charger and Tracer**



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**Attachments:**

- 1) Contractor's Letter dated 6 February 1963
- 2)  Brochure

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**Distribution:**

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